

WASHINGTON -- Omaha's congressman is moving on up.

Rep. Lee Terry will switch his Washington office space next week as part of the Capitol Hill real estate shuffle that follows every election.

Veteran lawmakers are defeated or retire, and vacant prime space is then snapped up by their colleagues. Available space is doled out based on seniority.

Having just won his sixth term in Congress, Republican Terry landed a spot in the coveted Rayburn House Office Building.

The reason Rayburn is in such demand, Terry said, can be summed up in two words: "Bigger offices."

Terry expects to pick up about 70 square feet in the newest of the three House office buildings.

That may not sound like much, but the extra space and a better configuration will give aides a little more elbow room and constituents a place to wait when they stop by.

"They'll actually have a lobby to sit in instead of having to stand out in the hallway," Terry said.

He said the new office will be closer to the Energy and Commerce Committee rooms. He's a member of the committee.

Terry leaves behind the Longworth House Office Building, where his office has been his entire 10 years in Congress.

Rep. Jeff Fortenberry, R-Neb., also is giving up his current office in Longworth, but he's moving down the hall to a bigger space.

The junior member of Nebraska's House delegation, Rep. Adrian Smith, Republican, is sticking with his office on the fifth floor of the Cannon House Office Building.

Offices on that floor have been maligned over the years because they are not the most accessible, but spokesman Charles Isom said the office has worked well for Smith.

Rep. Steve King, R-Iowa, is moving from the sixth floor of Longworth to a more convenient location on the building's ground floor.

- **Contact the writer:** 202-662-7270, joe.morton@owh.com

